

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR:SOV:MGARRISON:REH

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 014673

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, UR, US

SUBJECT: KURSCH PNG; EXPULSION OF SOVEMBASSY COUNSELOR
BOROZDENKOV

1. EUR/SOV DIRECTOR CALLED IN SOVIET DCM VASEV JANUARY 18
AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO SHOW EVIDENCE REGARDING AVDYUNIN.
VASEV HAD NOT HEARD FROM MOSCOW, SO GARRISON INFORMED HIM
OF ACTION BY FEDOSEYEV REQUIRING KURSCH TO LEAVE IN 48
HOURS, ANY EVIDENCE ABOUT AVDYUNIN NOTWITHSTANDING. VASEV
SAID THEIR POSITION ON KURSCH HAD NOT CHANGED, THAT THE
KURSCH CASE STOOD ON ITS OWN MERIT, BUT HE WAS PREPARED AS
PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED TO VIEW OUR EVIDENCE ON AVDYUNIN.

2. GARRISON EXPLAINED THAT THE EVIDENCE WE WERE ABOUT TO
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SHOW VASEV WAS NOT PREPARED FOR PURPOSES OF SHOWING THE
SOVIETS, SINCE WE HAVE NO SUCH OBLIGATION; OUR LAW ENFORCE-
MENT OFFICIALS AND THE DEPARTMENT HAD SIMPLY WANTED TO BE
SURE OF OUR GROUND BEFORE TAKING THE SERIOUS STEP OF EXPEL-
LING A SOVIET EMBASSY EMPLOYEE. NEVERTHELESS, WE DECIDED
TO SHOW IT TO VASEV IN ORDER TO UNDERLINE THE SERIOUSNESS
WITH WHICH WE VIEWED AVDYUNIN'S ACTIVITY AND THE INAPPRO-

PRIATENESS OF THE SOVIET RETALIATION. GARRISON EXPLAINED THAT VASEV WOULD SEE A FILM SHOWING AVDYUNIN ENGAGED IN DISCUSSION WITH THE SPOUSE OF A DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE ABOUT

THE USEFULNESS OF INTELLIGENCE MATERIAL ALREADY PROVIDED, AND ACCEPTING ANOTHER BATCH OF MATERIAL. WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE FBI, VASEV WAS THEN SHOWN A VIDEO TAPE OF EVENTS THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 22. VASEV ATTEMPTED TO RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT ENTRAPMENT, BUT GARRISON CUT OFF THE DISCUSSION, POINTING OUT THAT THE EVIDENCE SPOKE FOR ITSELF: AVDYUNIN CLEARLY HAD WILLINGLY ACCEPTED INTELLIGENCE MATERIAL PREVIOUSLY SOLICITED.

3. GARRISON SAID THAT VASEV SHOULD NOW BE ABLE TO APPRECIATE WHY WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE AVDYUNIN CASE WARRANTED RETALIATION. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PREVIOUS WARNINGS, WE WERE NOW TAKING FURTHER ACTION. VASEV WAS GIVEN A NOTE DECLARING SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR VLADIMIR BOROZDENKOV PERSONA NON GRATA AND STATING THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IS FULLY AWARE OF THE BACKGROUND AND REASONS FOR THIS ACTION. VASEV SAID HE WOULD REPORT.

4. GARRISON REFERRED TO THE POINT MADE ORALLY TO THE SECRETARY AND SHULMAN ON SATURDAY THAT THE BALANCE IN TRADE REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN IN MOSCOW. GARRISON REPLIED THAT WE DO NOT
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REGARD BUSINESSMEN AS EQUIVALENT TO SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIALS, AND IN ANY CASE OUR APPROXIMATELY 50 BUSINESSMEN WERE FAR OUTNUMBERED BY THE APPROXIMATELY 100 SOVIET TRADE OFFICIALS WORKING IN AMTORG, KAMA AND OTHER SOVIET BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS HERE. MOREOVER, DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE BALANCE REMINDS US THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY HAS 26 COUNSELORS AND MINISTERS, COMPARED TO ONLY 6 IN OUR MOSCOW EMBASSY. IN ANY CASE, THE SOVIET SIDE CAN BE SURE, AS PREVIOUSLY MADE CLEAR, THAT ANY FURTHER REACTION TO OUR EXPULSION OF BOROZDENKOV WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE IMBALANCE IN RANKS AND NUMBERS. VASEV REFERRED TO OUR USE OF LOCAL EMPLOYEES AND COMMENTED THAT A CUTBACK IN TRADE REPRESENTATION WOULD HURT US MORE THAN THEM, SINCE THE TRADE PEOPLE INVOLVED ARE MOSTLY INVOLVED IN THE SALE OF US GOODS TO THE USSR. GARRISON SAID THAT WAS A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE AND VASEV SHOULD NOT BE TOO QUICK TO MAKE SUCH ASSUMPTIONS. CHRISTOPHER

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